

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

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FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1147

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E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, CA

SUBJECT: SOVIET CLAIMS SETTLEMENT TO CANADIANS

REF: STATE 246965

HALIFAX 355

1. CONGEN HAS BEEN INFORMED BY ATTORNEY, DONALD KERR, WHO IS REPRESENTING SEVERAL OF THE LOBSTERMEN, OF THE FOLLOWING CLAIMS AND SETTLEMENTS.

A) OWNERS OF SHIP JULY " LINDA - HAD TWO CLAIMS TOTALLING APPROXIMATELY 160,000 DOLLARS AND HAVE BEEN PAID 60,000 DOLLARS, WHICH THEY ACCEPTED IN FULL SETTLEMENT.

B) OWNERS OF MARGARET R M HAD CLAIM OF 6,000 DOLLARS AND HAVE ACCEPTED AND WERE PAID 5,000 DOLLARS.

C) MC LEOD FISHERIES OF LIVERPOOL ARE CLAIMING 170,000 DOLLARS. THEY WERE OFFERED 105,000 DOLLARS, AND HAVE REJECTED THE OFFER. THEY
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HAVE STARTED ACTION AGAINST 22 SOVIET VESSELS IN

THE CANADIAN COURTS. THE SOVIETS WILL APPARENTLY
ACCEPT SERVICE THROUGH A CANADIAN LAWYER, WHICH
THEY AGREED TO APPOINT SIX WEEKS AGO AND HAVE NOT
YET DONE SO.

2. OTHER CASES BEING CONSIDERED ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A) THE DONNA RAE IS CLAIMING 77,000 DOLLARS.
THEY WERE OFFERED 30,000 DOLLARS AND HAVE REJECTED
THIS OFFER. STEWART MC INNIS IS THEIR ATTORNEY.

B) THE HANNEBERRY BROTHERS HAVE TWO CLAIMS
PENDING, AMOUNT UNKNOWN, ALTHOUGH THEY ARE
KNOWN TO HAVE ACCEPTED A 30 PERCENT SETTLEMENT.

3. THE DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES OPENED NEGOTIATIONS
WITH THE SOVIETS REGARDING THESE CLAIMS AND SET UP
MEETINGS IN HALIFAX. TOTAL CLAIMS AMOUNTED TO
ABOUT 400,000 DOLLARS AND SETTLEMENTS TOTALLED 130,000
DOLLARS, WHICH HAVE BEEN PAID.

4. FURTHER, TWO OR THREE CLAIMS WERE SUBMITTED
SUBSEQUENT TO THE SETTING UP OF THE MEETINGS AND THE
SOVIETS WOULD NOT NEGOTIATE ON THESE STATING THAT THEY
HAD NO MANDATE. THEY AGREED TO TAKE THEM BACK TO THE
USSR FOR EXAMINATION.
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